

MISCELLANY

Under this department are ordinarily grouped: News Items; Letters; Special Articles; Twenty-Five Years Ago column; California Board of Medical Examiners; and other columns as occasion may warrant. Items for News column must be furnished by the fifteenth of the preceding month. For Book Reviews, see index on the front cover, under Miscellany.

NEWS

Coming Meetings†

California Medical Association. Session will convene in Los Angeles. Headquarters, Hotel Biltmore, 5th and Olive Sts. Dates of meetings: Tuesday, May 7-Friday, May 10, 1946.

American Medical Association. The next annual session of the American Medical Association will be held in San Francisco, July 1-5, 1946. (Monday-Friday, inclusive.)

The Platform of the American Medical Association

The American Medical Association advocates:

1. *The establishment of an agency of Federal Government under which shall be coördinated and administered all medical and health functions of the Federal Government, exclusive of these of the Army and Navy.*

2. *The allotment of such funds as the Congress may make available to any state in actual need for the prevention of disease, the promotion of health, and the care of the sick or proof of such need.*

3. *The principle that the care of the public health and the provision of medical service to the sick is primarily a local responsibility.*

4. *The development of a mechanism for meeting the needs of expansion of preventive medical services with local determination of needs and local control of administration.*

5. *The extension of medical care for the indigent and the medically indigent with local determination of needs and local control of administration.*

6. *In the extension of medical services to all the people, the utmost utilization of qualified medical and hospital facilities already established.*

7. *The continued development of the private practice of medicine, subject to such changes as may be necessary to maintain the quality of medical service and to increase their availability.*

8. *Expansion of public health and medical services consistent with the American system of democracy.*

(Ed. Note.—Interpretative comments on principles included in the A.M.A. platform appear in *CALIFORNIA AND WESTERN MEDICINE* for December, 1939, on pages 394-395. For subsequent comment, see *J.A.M.A.*, June 24, 1944, pp. 574-576. Also, August, 1945, *CALIFORNIA AND WESTERN MEDICINE*, pp. 61-62.) On p. 61 (*C.M.A.*) and p. 62 (*A.M.A.*)

Medical Broadcasts*

The Los Angeles County Medical Association:

In May KFAC will present broadcasts on Saturdays at 10:15 a.m.; May 4, 11, 18 and 25.

The Saturday broadcasts of KFI are given at 9:45 a.m., under this title, "The Road to Health."

"Doctors at War":

For radio broadcasts of "Doctors at War" by the American Medical Association, see *J.A.M.A.*

† In the front advertising section of *The Journal of the American Medical Association*, various rosters of national officers and organizations appear each week, each list being printed about every fourth week. In *CALIFORNIA AND WESTERN MEDICINE*, some rosters appear in every second or third issue.

* County societies giving medical broadcasts are requested to send information as soon as arranged.

Pharmacological Items of Potential Interest to Clinicians*:

1. *Federation Proceedings:* From H. W. Ades on the corpus callosum to P. C. Zamecnik on lecithin and anti-toxin, 1,000 plus experimental biologists abstract accumulated work of war years: symposia include human centrifuge experiments, brain metabolism, various physiological systems, synaptic mechanisms, aviation problems, nutrition, exercise, shock, and temperature regulation from physiologists; carbon metabolism, nitrogen metabolism, growth, mineral metabolism, neurospora biochemistry, isotope biochemistry, respiratory and vitamin enzymes from biochemists; diisopropyl fluorophosphate, antimetabolites, anesthetics, autonomic drugs, biometrics, toxicity, chemotherapy, and cardiac drugs from pharmacologists; neoplasms, injury and repair, and hematology from pathologists; diets and world nutrition and vitamins from nutritionists, and antibiotics, viruses and immune sera from immunologists. (*Fed. Proc.*, 5:1-256, 1946.) Silly bureaucracy prevented H. J. Curtis discussing activation of tissue elements by slow neutron exposure, even though published in abstract (*Fed. Proc.*, 5:20, 1946). On what evidence did bureaucrats decide DFP (Diisopropyl fluorophosphate) is optimum of series for choline esterase inhibition? If anything could be gathered from the confusions of the meeting, it is that scientific workers are becoming more Fascistic in this country. L. K. Frank suggests that scientists prepare to act as responsible accountable individuals, in asking pertinent question about obedient patriotic citizens (*Science*, 103:350, March 22, 1946).

2. *More New Journals:* *Amsterdamsche Boek- en Courant Maatschappij*, Amsterdam, Holland, announces *Excerpta Medica*, an abstract journal to appear in 15 sections covering all phases of laboratory and clinical medicine, with A. P. H. A. de Kleyn, M. W. Woerdeman and W. P. C. Zeeman as editors. Grune & Stratton, 381 4th Ave., N. Y. 16, offer bi-monthly *Blood: The Journal of Hematology*, with appropriate introductory articles on chemical components of blood by E. J. Cohn (p. 3), and primary and secondary splenic panhematopenia by C. A. Doan and C. S. Wright (p. 10). W. D. Postell reviews American contributions to the literature of geriatrics (*Geriat* 1:41, 1946). *Occupation Medicine* rolls along: C. P. McCord & Co. apply N. F. MacLagen's thymol turbidity test of liver dysfunction (*Brit. J. Exp. Path.*, 25:234, 1944) to CCl₄ poisoning (*Occup. Med.*, 1:160, 1946).

3. *Reviving Pharmacology:* G. A. Alles pleasantly revives worthy effort with reports on lack of advantage in depressant action of substituted phenobarbitals, and on amethalkyl ammonium compounds (*Univ. Calif. Publ. Pharmacol.*, 2:173, 183, 1946). J. H. Masserman and K. S. Yum sensibly analyze influence of alcohol in experimental neuroses in cats, revealing factors in addiction (*Psychosom. Med.*, 8:36, 1946). E. R. Movitt offers *Digitalis and Other Cardiotonic Drugs* (*Oxford Med. Publ.*, N. Y., 1946.) N. H. Fairley & Co. report on paludrine (M4888) in malaria (*Med. J. Austral.*, 1:234, Feb., 16, 1946). E. H. Reinhard, C. V. Moore & Co. give full review of radioactive phosphorus as a therapeutic agent (*J. Lab. Clin. Med.*, 31:107, 1946). Note A. Krogh's

* These items submitted by Chauncey D. Leake, formerly Director of U. C. Pharmacologic Laboratory, now Dean of University of Texas Medical School.

Croonian Lecture on active and passive exchange of inorganic ions through living membranes (*Proc. Roy. Soc. B.*, 133:140, 1946).

4. *Otherwise Interesting*: Sir Henry Dale bravely condemns tendency toward scientific secrecy (*Proc. Roy. Soc. B.*, 133:135, 1946). W. D. Harkins bravely discusses the neutron, the compound nucleus and the atomic bomb (*Science* 103:289, March, 8, 1946). A. Huxley pauses in his retreat from reason (*Perennial Philosopher*, N. Y., 1945) to confuse further the problems of *Science, Liberty and Peace* (Harper, N. Y., 1946, 86 pp., \$1). L. Mumford reminisces toughly on *Values for Survival* (Harcourt, N. Y., 1946, 314 pp., \$3). D. Masters and K. Way edit *One World or None*, designed to enlighten, maybe frighten (McGraw Hill, N. Y., 1946, \$1). Philosophical Library, N. Y. 16, announce J. Dewey's *Problems of Men* to appear April 29, at \$5. And the *Burma Surgeon Returns* (G. S. Seagrave, Norton, N. Y., 1946, \$3).

5. *Notes*: M. Maizels discusses action of hemolysins on erythrocytes (*Quart. J. Exp. Physiol.*, 33:183, 1946). L. Kreyberg (Oslo), reports on tissue damage due to cold (*Lancet*, 1:338, March 9, 1946). Randolph Field, Texas, releases mimeographed reports from A.A.F. School Aviation Medicine of which J. S. Gray's is worthy, on multiple factor theory of respiratory regulation. In symposium on antibiotics, our M. Fulton & Co. note that penicillin has no action on alcaligenes (*Science*, 103:361, March 22, 1946). Our G. M. Decherd and A. Ruskin discuss mechanism of A-V block (*Brit. Heart J.*, 8:6, 1946).

Atom Work Brings New Age of Medicine.—Atomic research has ushered in a new age for medicine, says Dr. Robert S. Stone, professor of radiology in the University of California Medical School who recently returned from Chicago and Oak Ridge where he was in charge of health aspects of the plutonium project.

"Large quantities of many radioactive elements will soon be available as tracers for metabolic studies, as diagnostic acids for clinical investigations and as therapeutic agents for treatment of diseases," says Dr. Stone, in a recent survey of the science of radiology from the discovery of the x-ray to the era of atomic power.

Dr. Stone points out that while the use of radioactive materials and neutrons, radiations similar in some respects to x-rays, is in its infancy, enough has been done to indicate that they may change medical procedures as much as have x-rays.

Radioactive elements such as phosphorus, strontium, iodine and sodium have already been used with conspicuous success in determining the mechanism of many complex steps in metabolism.

In the future these and many other radio elements, of which radioactive carbon will be especially valuable, will be available in much greater quantity for scientific research.

Radio Transcriptions: "The Public Comes First."—"The Public Comes First," a new series of six radio transcriptions, prepared by the A.M.A. Council on Medical Service and Public Relations in cooperation with the Bureau on Health Education, is ready for distribution. These transcriptions in which Harriet Hester, nationally known radio script writer, interviews members of the Council deal with various phases of the medical care problem, urban and rural health, voluntary prepayment plans and the A.M.A. Constructive Program for Medical Care. These consist of the following fifteen-minute transcriptions:

"What Constitutes Adequate Medical Care," Dr. Roger I. Lee and Dr. Thomas A. McGoldrick.

"What Are Rural Medical Problems?" Dr. James R. McVay and Dr. W. R. Brooksher.

"The Costs of Illness," Dr. Louis H. Bauer.

"Hospital Insurance and How to Make Use of It," Dr. Alfred W. Adson and Mr. John R. Mannix.

"Prepaid Medical Service Plans," Dr. John H. Fitzgibbon and Mr. J. C. Ketchum.

"The Public Comes First," Dr. Herman L. Kretschmer and Dr. E. J. McCormick.

Notices of this service have been sent to various radio stations throughout the country. Proper committees of county medical societies are urged to contact their local radio stations and schedule these broadcasts. Stations are scheduling these on a sustaining (no fee) basis. These "platters" may be obtained free of charge by writing direct to the Bureau of Health Education or the Council office.

Rural Health Conference.—The first annual Rural Health Conference was held Saturday, March 30, at the Palmer House, under the direction of the A.M.A. Committee on Rural Medical Service. This conference was held in conjunction with the American Farm Bureau Federation and the Farm Foundation. Representatives from the Grange, Farmers' Union and other farm groups were invited. This Conference followed immediately a three-day meeting in Chicago of the Midwest leaders of the American Farm Bureau. Two or more representatives have been invited to attend this meeting from each state medical society.

Honor Dr. Francis M. Pottenger For Tuberculosis Control Work.—In recognition of his many years of service in the fight against tuberculosis, Doctor Francis M. Pottenger was named president emeritus of the Los Angeles County Tuberculosis and Health Association at its recent annual meeting. In behalf of the board of directors of the association, Rabbi Edgar F. Magnin presented him with a framed parchment scroll. The message on the scroll follows:

"WHEREAS, in the life of every institution concerned with the welfare of humanity there is always one individual who, because of his clear vision, crusading spirit and tireless efforts, stands as the living symbol of that institution; and

"WHEREAS, the anti-tuberculosis movement in Southern California has the privilege and honor of having such an individual associated with it; and

"WHEREAS, it is the earnest desire of the Los Angeles County Tuberculosis and Health Association to honor this individual;

"Therefore Be It Resolved, that the Los Angeles County Tuberculosis and Health Association create the office of President Emeritus with voice and vote on the Board of Directors; and

"Be It Further Resolved, that there be elected to this office a man who was the founder of the anti-tuberculosis organization in Southern California from which sprang not only the present Los Angeles County Association but also the California Tuberculosis and Health Association; a man eminent nationally and internationally as a clinician; a man who not only ministers with great skill to individual patients but who, in the face of public fear of, and apathy to tuberculosis, waged and is waging the war against the disease on the broad fields of public health and a man whose wise counsel, warm friendliness and devotion to the cause is a guide and an inspiration to all who fight the forces of illness—Francis Marion Pottenger, M.D."

Life Insurance Medical Research Fund.—Colonel Francis R. Dieuaide, up to recently Chief of the Tropical Disease Treatment Branch of the Surgeon General's Office, has been named Scientific Director of the Life Insurance Medical Research Fund, it was announced today by M. Albert Linton, chairman of the Fund, 60 East 42nd Street, New York 17, New York.

The Life Insurance Medical Research Fund was estab-

lished last year to make grants to universities and medical schools for research on diseases of the heart and related diseases. The Fund plans to make grants of more than \$3,000,000 for this purpose over the next five years. A total of 147 life insurance companies in this country and Canada are supporting the Fund.

Southern California Public Health Association.—

Election of Dr. George M. Uhl of Los Angeles as president, as well as other officers to serve for the coming year marked the close of the recent all day Public Health Conference of the Southern California Public Health Association at the Civic Auditorium.

Other officers are: Dr. H. O. Swartout, president-elect; Dr. Norman B. Nelson, first vice-president; Dr. Harrison Eilers, second vice-president; Dr. Ellarene L. MacCoy, secretary-treasurer; Dr. Meridian R. Ball, assistant-secretary treasurer.

Members of the executive committee chosen were C. L. Senn, Dr. C. R. Buss, Ed Beal, Mrs. M. Smiley, Dr. Ruth Wooley and Dr. Ira Church.

American Physicians' Art Association and American Physicians' Literary Guild at American Medical Association Convention.—

About one thousand art pieces and several hundred literary creations all done by physicians throughout the country, will be exhibited during the A.M.A. convention, July 1 to 5, in San Francisco, on the mezzanine floor of the Opera House. All visiting physicians are invited to these galleries as well as to attend with their wives, the annual Art-Guild Banquet, to be held at the Hotel Whitcomb, Crystal Room, 6:30 p.m., Tuesday, July 2, 1946, when the trophy winners will be announced.

For further information, communicate with the Secretary, 526 Flood Bldg., San Francisco 2, California, or telephone EXbrook 6017.

William P. Shepard, M.D., Chosen to Be Next President of the National Tuberculosis Association.—

Dr. William P. Shepard, San Francisco, was named president-elect of the National Tuberculosis Association by the board of directors meeting in Chicago, March 9.

Dr. Shepard was chosen to succeed Dr. Victor F. Cullen who resigned and who was scheduled to become president at the annual meeting of the N.T.A. in Buffalo in June. Dr. Shepard therefore will be inducted as president at the June meeting and will preside at the 1947 N.T.A. annual meeting, tentatively scheduled for San Francisco.

Dr. Shepard is third vice-president of the Metropolitan Life Insurance Company. He was the 1943-44 president of the California Tuberculosis and Health Association, and has long been identified with tuberculosis work and activities in the American Public Health Association.

National Hospital Day 1946 Cites: "The Hospital—Your Hope For Health."—Adopting as their slogan *The Hospital—Your Hope for Health*, hospitals all over the nation will celebrate National Hospital Day, 1946, on May 12. Having weathered the strain of wartime operation, hospitals now face the most tremendous task in their history—that of supplying adequate care and adequate facilities to a patient load larger than it has ever before been called upon to handle.

During 1945, hospitals experienced an increase in total number of patient days of hospital care proportionate to the 15 per cent increase of 1944 over those supplied in 1943. "This does not mean that more people have been ill," stated Dr. Peter D. Ward, president of the Amer-

ican Hospital Association, "but simply that the public has become more hospital-minded. Also, the benefits of 'Blue Cross' have made hospital care available to more people. As preventive medicine has come of age, the hospital no longer signifies a place for final and drastic measures; rather it is a place for health protection, where minor as well as major ailments may find alleviation.

"This increased interest in and appreciation of hospital care is due largely to the progress of medical science in the control of disease—progress that has given the American people the most effective medical and hospital care ever offered to a group of comparable size—progress that has in the past 150 years almost doubled the average number of years a man may expect to live.

"It is fitting that on May 12, 125 years since the birth of Florence Nightingale, founder of many of our modern hospital practices, we take stock of the challenge facing our hospitals and their response. Voluntary hospitals, representing two-thirds of the value in assets of all general hospitals in the country, have pioneered in construction planning which will constitute a considerable step toward satisfying present demands. The inauguration of hospital surveys, licensing systems, increased availability of prepaid hospital insurance, the trend toward establishment of health centers and medical insurance—all indicate that on this National Hospital Day, hospitals merit the confidence and support of the public."

Research Donation to Honor Memory of Dr. Philip H. Pierson.—

Receipt of a gift of \$5,000 for medical research has been announced by Dr. H. G. Trimble, chairman of the board of trustees of Alum Rock Sanatorium, San Jose. The sanatorium is a non-profit institution for the treatment of diseases of the chest.

"This gift," according to Doctor B. H. Wardrip, secretary of the board of trustees of the institution, "will establish the Philip H. Pierson Memorial Medical Research Fund as a dedication to his unselfish devotion in the field of medicine, particularly diseases of the chest."

Dr. Pierson, clinical professor of medicine at Stanford University Medical School and consultant at Alum Rock Sanatorium, died January 17, 1946. Dr. Pierson was vice-president of the National Tuberculosis Association and a past president of the California Tuberculosis and Health Association.

Federal Security Agency: Office of Vocational Re-

habilitation.—To advance an expanding physical restoration program, the Office of Vocational Rehabilitation, Federal Security Agency, has acquired the services of five new medical officers and contemplates filling additional full-time posts in the fields of ophthalmology, hospital administration, tuberculosis and psychiatric social work, Director Michael J. Shortley recently announced.

American College of Radiology.—The Annual Meeting of the American College of Radiology will be held in the city of San Francisco, at the Palace Hotel, on June 29, 1946, at 2:00 p.m. This is on the Saturday preceding the American Medical Association meeting which opens on July 1, Monday. The American Radium Society will meet at the Palace Hotel on June 30 and July 1, Sunday and Monday.

College headquarters will be at the Palace Hotel. It is suggested that the Palace be designated as the first choice by all Members and Fellows requesting reservations.

The Board of Chancellors will meet at the Palace Hotel on June 28 and the morning of June 29. A lunch-

eon for Councilors is being planned for Saturday, June 29. The annual banquet of the College will be held that evening, at which time the annual Presidential Address will be presented by Dr. Lowell S. Goin.

This will be the first meeting of the College since June, 1944. Pursuant to the Constitution and By-Laws, the following officers will be elected: president, vice-president, and five Chancellors, two for the College and one each for the American Roentgen Ray Society, the Radiological Society of North America, and the American Radium Society. Nominations for these officers will be presented by Dr. Raymond G. Taylor, chairman of the Nominating Committee.

American Pharmaceutical Association Awards 1945

Ebert Prize.—Research on the sclerosing agent, sodium morrhuate, has won the 1945 Ebert Prize for Dr. Paul Jannke, faculty member of the University of Nebraska College of Pharmacy. The award was made by the American Pharmaceutical Association on the recommendation of the Ebert Prize Committee of its Scientific Section.

The investigations, which will be of value in treating varicose veins, were supported in part by a fellowship from the American Pharmaceutical Association. The American Association for the Advancement of Science and the Nebraska Academy of Arts and Science provided grants-in-aid for early phases of the work.

Dr. Jannke's experiments revealed that contrary to general belief, the more nearly saturated fatty acids of cod liver oil are the more satisfactory sclerosing agents and their action was shown to produce a minimum and only brief irritation.

The research confirmed that commercial samples of sodium morrhuate differ greatly in chemical, physical and pharmacologic properties. The presence of a completely soluble precipitate in some sodium morrhuate solutions for parenteral use did not, however, indicate inferior sclerosing properties.

California Administrative Code For Public Health Now Available.—The California Administrative Code, Title 17, Public Health, which includes all the rules and regulations of the State Board of Public Health is now available from the State Bureau of Printing, Documents Division, 11th and O Streets, Sacramento 14. The price is \$2.50 plus tax.

Never before have all the rules and regulations governing the activities of the department been printed in one place or even readily available in any form. They are published in loose-leaf form and will be revised at intervals.

"Studies in Human Fertility—Methods for the Control of Conception."—Such is the title of a sound film which is available without charge to medical groups. The running time is 45 minutes. Interest in the film is evidenced by the fact that it has had 1,700 request showings and been viewed by 70,000 doctors, nurses and medical students.

The film portrays a medical classroom lecture in which the professor explains the knowledge and information necessary to qualify in advising individuals on problems involving conception control.

The physiology and anatomy of reproduction is reviewed in animated drawings and microphotography. Where possible, human specimens have been used, particularly in the development of the follicle. Also included, is an actual shot of cell division in the monkey. This part also contains diagrams, charts and graphs depicting

the progress throughout the cycle, of the vaginal glyco-gen curve, the mid vagina pH curve, the urinary estrogen and pregnandiol analysis, vaginal smears and the cyclic changes in the ovary and endometrium. Following this, is a study of human semen and spermatozoa, with up-to-date technical methods of analysis, study of the normal semen and effect of time and temperature and other factors of recent development. . . .

According to the American Pharmaceutical Manufacturers' Association, arrangements can be made to have "Studies in Human Fertility" shown, without charge, to any size audience, providing it is an accredited medical group. Requests should be addressed to the Film Division, Ortho Pharmaceutical Corporation, Linden, N. J.

Competition in the American System of Free Enterprise.

—A recent letter from Robert R. Young, Chairman of the Board, The Chesapeake and Ohio Railway, Company, contains statements that should be of interest to all who are interested in the advancement of scientific medicine, and the promotion of the public health. Excerpts from letter follow:

A Message to Moulders of Public Opinion

Competition is the life of trade. It is also the lash of progress. Competition has rightly been styled the keystone of the American system of free enterprise.

Where competition flourishes, products and services inevitably improve. As an example take American automobiles, acknowledged to be the best in the world. They are the fruits of competition.

Where competition languishes, progress falters. . . .

Advisory Health Councils in School Districts—

Pennsylvania Plan.—The establishment of an advisory health council in school districts to study the health needs and to assist in organizing a follow-up program was made mandatory in a recent act of the Pennsylvania State Assembly.

Furthermore, the act provides that "Those making medical and dental examinations shall make an annual report to this advisory council and later make a report on the remedial work which has been accomplished during the school year. This advisory council shall be composed of representatives of the medical and dental associations, social organizations, veterans' organizations, parent-teacher associations, service clubs, and other organizations in the area served."

Thus the responsibility for providing corrective service for medical and dental defects is placed squarely on the community.

Press Clippings.—Some news items from the daily press on matters related to medical practice follow:

Doctors Will Campaign for Health Plans

Inauguration of a State-wide drive to encourage every California citizen to enroll in some voluntary health insurance plan was announced yesterday by the California Medical Association, through its president, Dr. Philip K. Gilman.

The campaign will be financed and carried on by the medical profession with the support of the insurance industry and various civic and fraternal organizations, according to the announcement from the C.M.A.

A series of "voluntary health insurance weeks" will be sponsored in each of the counties of the State this year and next.

County Campaign

The first counties in which the drive will be conducted will be Solano and Orange. Next week, the drive will swing to Santa Cruz county.

It is proposed that city and county officials, civic leaders, county medical societies, insurance and fraternal leaders and representatives of the California Physicians' Serv-